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Front Page Edit Page Other Page

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Committee Likely To Stall Exchange Of Atom Secrets

By JACK BELL

WASHINGTON, April 26 (AP)—Members of the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee have responded to informal soundings with a pointed indication they will reject any proposal to exchange atomic weapon information with Great Britain.

Some members who believe that such an exchange may have been suggested by Prime Minister Winston Churchill in his talks with President Eisenhower early this year said they doubt the administration ever will formally present the proposal.

There is no doubt, however, that some high administration officials would like to have authority for the U. S. to tell the British government how many atomic bombs it possesses and how it proposed to deliver them against an enemy in case of attack.

Such information might include data on the development of atomic power for industrial purposes, but it was not proposed that any information be exchanged on actual

manufacture of the atomic bomb or on progress made with the hydrogen bomb.

LOOSE SECURITY

Opposition within the Senate-House committee to any such exchanges of information apparently is based largely on the belief that Britain's atomic security precautions are not tight enough—that any facts given to London would soon find their way to Moscow.

In support of this, some members cited what they said was recent critical testimony by Allan Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, about Britain's security setup.

Scientists have criticized as unnecessarily restrictive existing law

under which this country might communicate to another nation data on "refining, purification and subsequent treatment of source materials; reactor development; production of fissionable materials and research and development relating to the foregoing."

This law specifically bars from such exchanges data on design and fabrication of atomic weapons. Even the other information can't be transmitted except by presidential order on written recommendation of the National Security Council.